



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of  
**RICHARD C. LIM**  
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

March 22, 2012

9 a.m., Conference Room 325

in consideration of

**HCR 110/HR 81**

**PROPOSAL TO STUDY THE LESSONS LEARNED BY ISRAELI SOLAR ENERGY  
INITIATIVES AND THEIR APPLICABILITY TO THE STATE OF HAWAII.**

Chair Coffman, Vice Chair Kawakami and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports the intent of HCR 110/HR 81. DBEDT recognizes the value of studying best practices of Israel in using solar generated energy to provide water and space heating. Israel has been successful in utilizing this renewable energy source as a means to reduce its dependency on imported oil. Best practices and lessons learned here could further assist Hawaii's ongoing efforts to achieve energy independence. However, HCR 110/HR 81 does not identify any additional funding for this study. It would be difficult for DBEDT to allocate resources to achieve the objectives set out in HCR 110/HR 81 without degrading existing programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

**kawakami1 - Marissa**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 21, 2012 11:39 AM  
**To:** EEPtestimony  
**Cc:** sofiamontez6@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HCR110 on 3/22/2012 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for EEP 3/22/2012 9:00:00 AM HCR110

Conference room: 325  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Sofia Montez  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [sofiamontez6@gmail.com](mailto:sofiamontez6@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/21/2012

**Comments:**

I support HCR 110. If the Israelis have been successful at expanding their use of solar energy, we should learn from what they accomplished. Thank you for accepting my testimony.

**kawakami1 - Marissa**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 21, 2012 10:44 AM  
**To:** EEPtestimony  
**Cc:** ahuv808@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HR81 on 3/22/2012 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for EEP 3/22/2012 9:00:00 AM HR81

Conference room: 325  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Ahuv  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [ahuv808@gmail.com](mailto:ahuv808@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/21/2012

**Comments:**

Aloha Chair Coffman and committee members of Energy & Environmental Protection,

I am writing in support of HCR1101/HR81.

It was almost 7 decades ago that Israel first became a country. Back then, Israel was a poor country whose only export was religion and lemons. Shortly after the establishment of Israel, my uncle Levi Yissaw pioneered the first solar water heater to address the energy shortage since oil rich countries in the Middle East segregated Israel because of its religion. Overtime, this simple water heater my uncle pioneered has grown to over half the country using solar water heaters and several large solar farms producing a majority of the electricity needed for Israel.

After reading HCR110/HR81, it reminded me of Israel's first transaction into become less depended on fossil fuels.

It is my hope that you support this measure.  
Todah Raba

Support of HCR110/HR81 – 03/21/2012

Chair Coffman and Members of the Energy and Environmental Protection committee,

I am writing in support of HCR110/HR81 - relating to solar energy.

This resolution proposes a study of the successful Israeli solar initiatives and their applicability to the state of Hawaii. With approximately 90 percent of Hawaii's electricity being produced from imported fossil fuels, and with the price of imported fuel skyrocketing, such a measure would prove greatly beneficial.

Israel's transition from fossil fuels to renewable, affordable, solar energy provides us with valuable lessons to assess, adapt and implement here in Hawaii. Moreover, it proves to us that such expansive reform is not only possible, but truly beneficial.

For all these reasons and more, I respectfully request that you pass HCR110/HR81. Together, I believe that we can see such a vital transformation in our beloved state that would secure for us and our children, a brighter future.

Thank you.

Severine Busquet